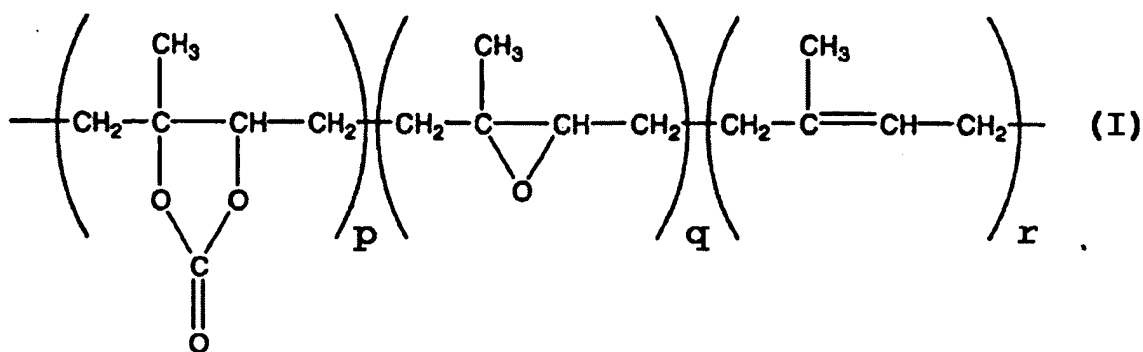


**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A cyclic carbonate-containing polymeric compound consisting essentially of a polymeric compound represented by formula (I):



wherein p, q, and r independently represent the molar composition ratio of each monomer unit: p is a number over 0; q and r are each a number not smaller than 0; and the sum of p, q, and r is 1 or smaller.

2. (Currently Amended) A method for producing the cyclic carbonate-containing polymeric compound according to claim 1 comprising:

deproteinizing natural rubber;

a first step of epoxidizing the deproteinized natural rubber; and

~~a second step of allowing the epoxidized deproteinized natural rubber obtained via the first step~~ to react with supercritical carbon dioxide.

3. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 2, wherein the ~~second~~ step of allowing the epoxidized deproteinized natural rubber to react with supercritical carbon dioxide is carried out in the presence of a polar organic solvent and/or an ionic liquid.

4. (Original) The method according to claim 3, wherein the polar organic solvent is at least one member selected from the group consisting of N,N-dimethylformamide, N,N-diethylformamide, N,N-dimethylacetamide, N,N-diethylacetamide, and N-methylpyrrolidone.

5. (Original) The method according to claim 3, wherein the ionic liquid is at least one member selected from the group consisting of 3-methyl-1-octylimidazolium tetrafluoroborate, 1-hexyl-3-methylimidazolium tetrafluoroborate, 1-butyl-3-methylimidazolium tetrafluoroborate, 1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium tetrafluoroborate, 1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium hexafluorophosphate, and 1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium trifluoromethanesulfate.

6. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 2, wherein the ~~second~~ step of allowing the epoxidized deproteinized natural rubber to react with supercritical carbon dioxide is carried out at a reaction temperature between 50° C. and 200° C.

7. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 2, wherein the ~~second~~ step of allowing the epoxidized deproteinized natural rubber to react with supercritical

carbon dioxide is carried out at a supercritical carbon dioxide pressure of between 5 MPa and 20 MPa.

8. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 2, wherein the ~~second~~ step of allowing the epoxidized deproteinized natural rubber to react with supercritical carbon dioxide is carried out for 0.5 hour to 20 hours.